

the more than 30 schools it has constructed. In Iraq, Turkey's training programs for both Shiite and Sunni officials alike has been able to fill an important void in encouraging cooperation and reconciliation between the two rival factions.

Of course, our common bond goes deeper than mere military and political cooperation in Iraq and Afghanistan. We have in Turkey an ally that has proven it shares our commitment to spreading democracy, both within its own borders and amongst its neighbors. Their 70 million citizens have rejected an extremist version of Islam in favor of a secular, democratic government. Turkey also has been a valuable contributor to United Nations peacekeeping missions intent on halting the bloodshed in Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Sudan.

Madam Speaker, Turkey has earned our respect, friendship, and gratitude, and deserves recognition for its crucial assistance over the last 60 years. I look forward to strengthening this important relationship as we continue working toward our mutual interests.

TRIBUTE TO TORREL HUSKEY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the service and sacrifice of my constituent, Mr. Torrel Huskey. Mr. Huskey is a 91-year-old World War II veteran living in Kansas City, Kansas. In 1943, Mr. Huskey was assigned to the 3496th Quartermaster Brigade as a truck driver on the "Red Ball Express," ferrying men, supplies and equipment to the front lines of battle as part of Operation Overlord.

During these missions, Mr. Huskey often dodged obstacles such as barbed wire and land mines and repeatedly came under attack from enemy small arms fire, mortar fire, artillery barrages and strafing runs by the German Luftwaffe. It was during one of these attacks that Mr. Huskey was wounded from enemy mortar fire.

With shrapnel embedded in his legs, and at the insistence of his commanding officer, Mr. Huskey bandaged his own wounds and carried on with his duties. He continued driving, despite his wounds, risking death or permanent injury because that was his job—to keep the wheels of the battlefield moving forward as the Allies raced to the Rhine.

When the "Red Ball Express" ended in September 1944, Mr. Huskey was assigned the arduous task of locating hastily buried comrades and transporting them to the U.S. gravesites sprinkled throughout France, Belgium and elsewhere in Europe.

In June 2006, I was contacted by Mr. Huskey's oldest daughter, Lynda McClelland, with a request for assistance to obtain the Purple Heart medal for her father.

After nearly 2 years of researching medical records, reviewing morning reports and hearings before the Army Board for the Correction of Military Records, I learned that Mr. Huskey's files were destroyed during the 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center. There exists no record of Mr. Huskey's injuries or treatment for the wounds he sustained in action either in his medical records file or in

existing morning reports. Therefore, the recommendation for the award of the Purple Heart was denied.

It is a shame that Mr. Huskey is still without the Purple Heart Medal, despite the fact that the Department of Veterans Affairs has found Mr. Huskey to be service-connected for both Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and scars from the residuals of shrapnel embedded in his legs and knees.

It is for these reasons that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Torrel Huskey. Without the service and sacrifice of Mr. Huskey, and all of the men and women of the "greatest generation," our Nation would not be the resilient and flourishing country it is today. By continuing his mission, despite being wounded, Mr. Huskey lent great credit to himself, the Army Motor Transport Brigade and the United States of America.

HONORING NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES OF RICHLAND COUNTY

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Neighborhood Housing Services, NHS, of Richland County for the 25 years of service this agency has provided to its communities. As America's first Rural NHS, Richland County has partnered with numerous entities in the areas of housing, insurance, and construction, allowing this agency to offer comprehensive services and assistance to area residents.

NHS of Richland County is able to revitalize communities and address current needs. Recent initiatives have addressed the mortgage crisis and the August 2007 flood in western Wisconsin. With interest rates rising and property values decreasing, many hardworking families have had an increasingly difficult time making their mortgage payments, thus now more than ever it is especially important that our local communities have the necessary resources to provide affordable housing for those who need it most.

NHS of Richland County responded to this need and in 2007 when in spite of this downturn in the housing market they assisted 81 households with loans and maintained a near zero percent foreclosure rate. NHS also created the Responsible Homeownership, R-HOME, initiative. This project is a comprehensive mortgage loan program created to better serve the needs of consumers with little or no credit history. In addition to the above endeavors, when the flood of August 2007 hit, NHS was part of local flood recovery effort in providing critical assistance to families.

Foreclosure prevention, homeownership seminars, flood recovery assistance and establishing renewable energy systems are just a few of the programs contributing to the success of Richland County's Neighborhood Housing Services. Since 1983, NHS of Richland County has responded and assisted over 3,000 households by building 39 affordable, energy-efficient homes, repairing more than 40 homes in the tornado stricken town of Viola, Wisconsin and constructing a 25-unit apartment complex for low-income seniors.

I applaud Neighborhood Housing Services of Richland County for providing invaluable

support for homeowners in western Wisconsin, being a leader to housing services around the country and most importantly, upholding their motto of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors."

HONORING REID COLLIANDER AND REID'S LEMON-AID RIDE FOR RESEARCH

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to recognize an outstanding young man from my Congressional District, Reid Colliander, for his hard work and dedication to raising money for Children's Memorial Hospital Brain Tumor Research.

Reid was diagnosed with a brain tumor when he was just 7 years old. As a benefactor of brain tumor research, he underwent brain surgery and over 3 years of rehabilitation. Today Reid is happy, healthy, normal, and active in basketball and baseball.

Reid's journey did not end when he was cured. In 2005, he formed Reid's Lemon-AID stand, which seeks to raise money for brain tumor research at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, and develop a lifestyle for local youth of charity and service. To this date, Reid has raised over \$45,000.

As part of Lemon-AID, Reid, along with friends and family, visits several local communities to build awareness on the critical need for the funding of brain tumor research and to gain support for his organization.

More than 100 children, ranging in age from 5 to 12, have participated in various Reid's Lemon-AID fundraising events, learning citizenship and much more along the way.

One such event is the second annual Reid's LemonAid Ride for Research event. During this event, more than 100 kids will lead as many as 700 cyclists on a 5K bike ride through downtown Glen Ellyn, Illinois this Saturday April 19th.

This family fun bicycle ride is working to hit Reid's ultimate goal, \$1 million for research of brain tumors.

Reid Colliander truly has turned what was once a tragic moment in his life to an outstanding service project, benefiting many children who are stricken with brain tumors.

To honor Reid, I encourage my colleagues to sign onto H. Res. 424, a resolution that calls for the recognition of National Brain Cancer Awareness Month in May.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in congratulating Reid Colliander and all that he has done for brain tumor research.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF TILSNER CARTON COMPANY IN ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Tilsner Carton Company of St. Paul, which is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year.

For such a long-lasting business, Tilsner Carton Company's beginnings were decidedly modest. Isadore Tilsner started collecting and reselling used boxes from liquor stores around St. Paul in 1918 to earn a living. As time passed, Tilsner Carton Company began manufacturing its own boxes with a same day delivery that became its trademark. Tilsner's son, Mike, took over Tilsner Carton Company as his son Joel Tilsner would do in 1986. Joel continues to operate the business and owns 100 percent of the company.

The corrugated box business has changed radically since Isadore Tilsner opened his warehouse in a garage 90 years ago. A few large manufacturers dominate today's market, but Tilsner Carton Company has continued to prosper through its responsive customer service, speedy production, and diversity of products. The company pays good jobs in our community as its customer base has grown both in size and geographic reach—today the business ships product displays all the way to Puerto Rico.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Tilsner Carton Company and its three generations of family ownership, and it is my honor to submit this statement for the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND
WORK OF DALE WEN-CHIEH JIEH

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, this month, our nation's Capitol will lose a good friend in Dale Wen-chieh Jieh, Director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO). Dale will be leaving Washington for his new post as Director-General, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Kansas City, Kansas. Dale has served as Director of the Political Division since July 15, 2005, as well as Director of the Congressional Liaison Division since July 1, 2006. During the last three years in Washington, D.C., Dale has made many friends in the administration and on Capitol Hill. He is well known for his scholarly demeanor, warm personality and quick grasp of the issues. He is truly a diplomat's diplomat.

Born in Taiwan, Dale was destined for academic excellence. He attended the National Cheng-chi University in Taiwan and the Graduate Institute of International Relations in Geneva, earning his Master of Arts in International Relations at the Free University of Brussels, Belgium. In addition to Mandarin Chinese, Dale is fluent in English and French.

Dale joined Taiwan's government service in the 1980's. He was a Specialist for the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (1986–1987); Assistant to the Vice Foreign Minister (1987–1989); Third Secretary, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago; Second Secretary, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand (June 1993–August 1995); Second Secretary on home assignment, Department of African affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Section Chief, Department of International Organizations, MOFA (June 1997–November 1998); Director, European Union Affairs, Taipei Representative Office in Belgium

(November 1998–July 2002); Principal Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (July 2002–April 2003); Deputy Director General, Department of International Organizations, MOFA (2003); Director, Political Division, TECRO (2005) and currently serves as Director of the Congressional Liaison Division, TECRO, a post Dale has lead with honor and distinction since 2006.

Though he will be missed in the halls of Congress, I trust Dale will continue to be an effective representative of the Taiwan government in his new post in Kansas City. I am confident Dale will continue to strengthen the relations between Taiwan and the United States in his new post, a task as important as ever as America continues to trade and do business with our friends and neighbors around the world. We will forever call upon the dedicated service of people like Dale to foster better, stronger and more valuable relationships between the United States and its allies.

So today, Madam Speaker, I rise to commend and congratulate my friend Dale Wen-chieh Jieh for his service to his country and also to the United States of America. I will always treasure my friendship with Dale and wish him, his charming wife and two beautiful daughters the best of luck as they journey west to their new home in Kansas City.

HONORING THE THIRTEENTH
QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION OF
THE SLAVONIC BENEVOLENT
ORDER OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Thirteenth Quadrennial Convention of the Slavonic Benevolent Order of the State of Texas SPJST, which will be held on June 8–11, 2008. For 111 years, SPJST has served as a fraternal organization and an educational tool for Czech immigrants to learn the democratic process, the value of free speech, and the importance of voting in their newly adopted homeland.

Today, there are more than 47,000 members of the SPJST in 120 lodges throughout the state of Texas. In recent years, SPJST has expanded to include youth activities and community service programs. As a result, many SPJST projects and members have been recognized by the Texas Fraternal Congress for their service and contribution to communities throughout Texas. SPJST has provided its members with identity and support throughout the years. In lodges all over the State of Texas, members are committed to helping those in need by working in hospitals, providing scholarships, and supporting drug abuse programs and other charities. The members of SPJST have upheld the tradition of helping people to care for their families and their communities.

With its great commitment to its members, communities, and organizations that it serves, SPJST embodies the value and tradition of the great State of Texas.

HONORING THE 2008 ST. PAUL CENTRAL
HIGH SCHOOL MINUTEMEN
GIRLS BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, 1 year ago, I rose to congratulate the 2007 St. Paul Central High School Minutemen girls basketball champions. Today, I have the privilege again—congratulations to the 2008 St. Paul Central High School Minutemen girls basketball team for winning the State championship! The Minutemen girls team successfully defended their title by defeating the same team, the number one top-seeded Minneapolis South Tigers, in the final State championship class 4A on Saturday, March 15, 2008, at the Target Center.

Although the St. Paul Central High School girls basketball Minutemen were trailing by 9 points at half-time, they fought back hard and overpowered their opponents in the second half with their outstanding talent, power, speed and resiliency. The Minutemen went on to beat their opponents with the final scores of 49–44 over the Tigers.

I am so proud of these fine young athletes and wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to them and the entire Central High School community. These back-to-back championship titles bring the school's record to four State championship titles, including 1976 and 1979. Last year, the Minutemen had a perfect season record of 32–0 and set a new record in post-season of Minnesota girls basketball championship history with the final score of 81–63 over the Minneapolis South Tigers. This year, the Minutemen are ranked third in the conference and were defeated by the Tigers once during the regular season, but in the post-season the Minutemen once again proved that they are the champions.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the students, teachers and staff of Central High School as well as the entire St. Paul Public Schools District, please join me in honoring the 2008 St. Paul Central Minutemen girls basketball State champions.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker and Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, I rise today on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus to honor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, one of our own who served as a Representative of California's 37th Congressional District from 1973 to 1979, and is retiring at the end of this year, after an impressive 50-year career as a public servant in the State of California.

On the occasion of Mrs. Burke's retirement from public office, we wish to extend to her sincere congratulations for the decades of dedicated service that she has given to her nation, her State, and her County, most recently as Chair of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, the largest county in the